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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED

COMMISSIONERS

BOB STUMP, Chairman
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Arizona Corporation Commission

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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In the matter of:

OUT OF THE BLUE PROCESSORS, LLC, an
 Arizona limited liability company, d/b/a Out of
 the Blue Processors II, LLC,

MARK STEINER (CRD# 1834102) and
 SHELLY STEINER, husband and wife,

Respondents.

DOCKET NO. S-20837A-12-0061

**SECURITIES DIVISION'S REPLY TO
 RESPONDENTS' POST-HEARING
 BRIEF**

Hearing Dates: April 28 – May 1, 2014

Assigned to Administrative Law
 Judge Mark Preny

The Securities Division ("Division") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") submits its reply ("Reply") to Respondents' Post-Hearing Brief filed on December 1, 2014 ("Respondents' Brief"). This Reply is supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities. Capitalized terms not defined in this Reply have the same definition used in the Division's Post Hearing Brief filed on June 23, 2014 (the "Opening Brief").

MEMORADUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. Introduction: the Commission's Constitutional and statutory authority to investigate and bring an action against a person who is selling unregistered securities is beyond doubt and not preempted by federal law when Respondents merely assert that their offering is pursuant to federal authority or raise criminal-law doctrines as defenses.

In Respondents' Brief, Respondents argue that the Division's investigation and filing of the Notice was not authorized. Respondents ignore the statutory and Constitutional authority authorizing the Division and the Commission to investigate and take actions in securities cases, as cited in the Opening Brief. To reiterate: the Arizona Legislature has authorized the Commission to conduct investigations of any person that the Commission deems necessary to determine whether a person has violated or is about to violate any provisions of the Securities Act or Commission

1 Rules.¹ So long as the Commission believes a person is or may be issuing or dealing in or selling
2 or buying securities, the Commission is authorized to investigate and examine into the affairs of
3 that person.²

4 Here the Division had much more than the requisite belief that Respondents were selling
5 securities: Respondents had actually offered to sell securities to "Margo Mallamo." As shown in
6 the Opening Brief, during his discussions with Mallamo Steiner discussed the investment in detail,
7 mentioned having multiple investors, sent written materials, and had settled on a price for
8 Mallamo's investment. Under established law (detailed in the Opening Brief) these actions
9 constitute an offer to sell securities. The Opening Brief also establishes that the securities were
10 unregistered, with no Form D on record, and with none of the Respondents being registered
11 dealers. This warranted action in the form of a TC&D and the Notice, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-
12 2032. The Respondents in this case were afforded their right to a hearing where they could present
13 evidence that they had complied with the Securities Act or were exempt.

14 In spite of this well-established statutory authority, Respondents believe that their mere
15 assertion that Respondents' offering was pursuant to Rule 506 of Federal Regulation D preempts
16 all state action, including investigation and an evidentiary hearing to determine Respondents'
17 purported compliance. Respondents also assert three criminal-law doctrines as defenses and
18 suggest that these defenses somehow nullify the evidence presented at hearing.

19 The Division anticipated his Federal-preemption argument in its Opening Brief. As
20 discussed in the Opening Brief and in some additional detail below, state authority is only
21 preempted if the issuer/broker has strictly complied with federal law. Respondents' Brief fails to
22 address any of the authority cited in the Opening Brief. It also fails to present a list of Rule 506
23 requirements and cite evidence on record establishing how Respondents satisfied the requirements.
24 Respondents had an opportunity to present evidence of compliance with Rule 506 at a hearing
25

26 _____
¹ A.R.S. § 44-1822.

² *Id.*

1 where Respondents were represented by counsel. They failed to do so. Consequently, their offering
2 is subject to Arizona authority.

3 Respondents' three defenses stemming from criminal-law doctrines are inapposite to this
4 administrative hearing. These three doctrines are entrapment, violation of Arizona's identity theft
5 statute, and (apparently) use of evidence produced from an unlawful search and seizure. As
6 discussed below, these defenses fail for at least three reasons: Respondents did not raise them in
7 their Answers to the TC&D and the Notice, this is not a criminal proceeding, and Respondents fail
8 to meet the elements of these criminal defenses.

9 Finally, Respondents arguments against the Division's fraud claims fail. These arguments
10 are primarily based on the Respondents' assertion that an appeal to "common sense" would show
11 that investors wouldn't care about knowing the finances of Lunsford Consulting ("Lunsford").
12 This ignores the facts and arguments set forth at hearing and in the Opening Brief, namely that the
13 standard is what a reasonable investor would expect, that Lunsford and OBP are intimately related,
14 that the fraud claims are based on activity on OBP's bank account, and the testimony of witnesses
15 asserting their expectations that the money not go to Steiner's personal expenses.

16
17 **II. Because Respondents failed to meet all the criteria of Regulation D Rule 506, federal
preemption of the Arizona Securities Act is not available to Respondents**

18 Respondents contend that the Division could not take action against Respondents because
19 Respondents' offerings are governed by federal law. As noted above, Respondents are putting the
20 cart before the horse: the hearing is his opportunity for them to present evidence that they
21 complied with federal law. Given this opportunity, they failed to present the requisite evidence.

22 The Division anticipated Respondents' preemption argument in its Opening Brief and
23 explained that Respondents have the burden of proving federal law preemption and then of proving
24 that they met all the criteria of the federal exemption. As cited in the Opening Brief, concerning
25 the "burden of proof" section of the Securities Act (A.R.S. § 44-2033), the Arizona Supreme Court
26 has held that "[b]ecause of the vital public policy underlying the registration requirement, there

1 must be strict compliance with all the requirements of the exemption statute.”³ From the Opening
2 Brief:

3 Merely purporting to sell under Rule 506 of Regulation D does not preempt state law.⁴

4 Respondents must also show that they fully complied with the requirements of the
5 rule.⁵ A failure to comply with the requirements of Rule 506 voids the exemption,
6 thereby eliminating the possibility of preemption.⁶

7 Since the securities that are the subject of this case were issued prior to September 23, 2013, they
8 are governed by Regulation D as it was written prior to the JOBS Act amendments (and, at any
9 rate, the JOBS Act’s addition of 506(c) would not be available since it requires that all purchasers
10 be accredited investors).

11 In Respondents’ Brief, Respondents fail to address the Division’s arguments and the
12 standards set forth in the Opening Brief and cited in the preceding paragraph. Respondents also fail
13 to even show knowledge of Rule 506 requirements (i.e. by listing each of the many Rule 506
14 requirements); much less provide evidence as to how each requirement is met. Looking at some of
15 the requirements shows that even if Respondents did make a sincere attempt to show compliance,
16 they would be unable to do so.

17 Rule 506 requires (1) satisfaction of all terms and conditions of §§ 501 and 502; and (2)
18 satisfaction of specific conditions, namely (i) that there be no more than 35, non-accredited
19 purchasers and (ii) that the purchasers “either alone or with his purchaser representative(s) has
20 such knowledge and experience in financial and business matters that he is capable of evaluating
21 the merits and risks of the prospective investment, or the issuer reasonably believes immediately
22 prior to making any sale that such purchaser comes within this description.” Additionally,
23 Regulation D requires that issuers file a Form D with the SEC; Arizona requires the issuer to file
24 the Form D with Arizona.⁷

25 ³ *State v. Baumann*, 125 Ariz. 404, 411, 610 P.2d 38, 45 (1980) (en banc) (emphasis added).

26 ⁴ *Grubka v. Webaccess Int’l, Inc.*, 445 F. Supp. 2d 1259, 1271 (D. Colo. 2006).

⁵ 17 C.F.R. § 230.501 et seq.

⁶ *Buist v. Time Domain Corp.*, 926 S.2d 290, 298 (Ark. 2005).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. § 77r(c); A.R.S. § 44-1843.02(C).

1 Respondents did not file a Form D as required by Federal and Arizona law. Because
2 Respondents must strictly comply with Regulation D, this failure makes their offering non-exempt
3 under Arizona law.

4 Respondents did not provide evidence that they only sold to accredited investors or 35 or
5 less investors with the requisite knowledge and experience, i.e. sophisticated investors.
6 Establishing that all 37 OBP investors are accredited is impossible for several reasons. First,
7 Respondents' evidence—consisting mostly of Steiner's testimony, which was primarily
8 observations of investors' lifestyle or the size of their home or some knowledge of their
9 employment background—only touches on 25 of the 37 purchasers. Thus, there is no evidence of
10 any kind that 12 of the investors were accredited. Respondents candidly admit on page 13 of
11 Respondents' Brief that "Several persons listed on exhibit S-19 were not accredited investors."

12 Second, Respondents' "evidence" about accreditation for the remaining investors is
13 insufficient. On page 12 of Respondents' Brief, Respondents admit that "Mr. Steiner did not obtain
14 specific networth [*sic*] or annual income information from the purchasers." Specific information,
15 however, is what is required. Regulation D has strict requirements as to accreditation—namely a
16 \$200,000/\$300,000 annual income for single/married persons or a net worth in excess of
17 \$1,000,000, excluding the value of a residence. Steiner only asserted that a handful of the 25
18 persons had "substantial" net worth or was "easily" accredited or previously had a large income.
19 Where Regulation D has strict number requirements, Respondents' evidence needed to establish
20 that these number requirements were met. Steiner's testimony consists of assertions that do not
21 show knowledge of the accreditation standards, do not assert that the specific standards were met,
22 and lack any documentation; they are not evidence of meeting a strict criterion. Only one of
23 Respondents' witnesses testified that he was accredited. Consequently, there is only evidence that
24 one of the 37 investors was accredited.

25 Third, although it is not the Division's burden to establish a lack of accreditation (rather, it
26 is Respondents' burden to show that each investor met the criteria), at hearing the Division

1 established that investors Flowers, Clay, and McNoughton were not accredited (additional offeree,
2 Mallamo, was also not accredited).

3 Respondents argue that investors made representations when they agreed to the LLC
4 Operating Agreements. Respondents failed, however, to provide a single, signed Operating
5 Agreement. Moreover, they provided no evidence that anyone at OBP reviewed the Operating
6 Agreements or other investor representations (such as they were) to make sure OBP had received
7 representations from each investor. Where a company fails to make such a review that company
8 fails to meet its burden of proof required under A.R.S. § 44-2033.

9 Having failed to prove that more than one investor was accredited, Respondents are left
10 with proving that 36 investors (more than the maximum 35) are sophisticated. The term
11 “sophisticated” refers to the requirement that the purchaser “has such knowledge and experience in
12 financial and business matters that he is capable of evaluating the merits and risks of the
13 prospective investment.”⁸

14 To be a sophisticated investor, the investor must have experience in the particular industry.
15 When making related inquiries about investor sophistication to determine whether investors could
16 have any control over a business, courts have required industry-specific knowledge; general
17 business experience is inadequate. For example, the venture involved in *Daggett v. Jackie Fine*
18 *Arts* was held to be a security in part because the plaintiff—who owned and operated a construction
19 company—had no experience in the marketing of fine art.⁹ Similarly, in *Sullivan v. Metro*
20 *Productions, Inc.*, the investment scheme for marketing a video-taped television show was held to
21 be a security because the “investments were offered without regard to the experience or
22 sophistication of the investors in the television industry.”¹⁰ In *Nutek Info. Sys., Inc. v. Arizona*
23 *Corp. Comm’n*, the court concluded that the focus should be on the individual investor’s knowledge
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26 ⁸ 17 C.F.R. §§ 230.506(b)(2)(ii).

⁹ 152 Ariz. at 567, 733 P.2d at 1150.

¹⁰ 150 Ariz. 573, 577, 724 P.2d 1242, 1246 (App.1986).

1 of the particular business being operated: "Just because one is a 'business person' does not make
2 him or her less reliant on the expertise of others when entering a new field of endeavor."¹¹

3 If Respondents' evidence for accreditation is applied to investor sophistication, his evidence
4 amounts to, at best, establishing some general business experience for some of the investors. He
5 did not present evidence that each OBP investor had experience conducting business involving
6 bringing Chinese-based capital to foreign infrastructure projects. As discussed in the Opening
7 Brief, according to Steiner's own representations of his company, the company depended on Mr.
8 Lunsford's unique relationship with the Chinese, something that purportedly took Mr. Lunsford
9 years to develop and that took Steiner over two years to develop. By Steiner's own description of
10 the business, only two people had the requisite knowledge and experience to conduct this business.
11 Thus, it is impossible for the investors to have the requisite sophistication.

12 Even if Respondents had presented evidence that established each non-accredited
13 investor's relevant experience for this particular industry, they would still fail to meet the
14 exemption because the investors could not have reviewed any records or disclosure information. In
15 *SEC v. Ralston Purina Co.*,¹² the Court held that sophistication is necessary but not sufficient for
16 the exemption: actual information similar to what would be found in registration documents is
17 required. *Ralston* held that the focus of inquiry as to whether an offering is "public" should be on
18 the need of the offerees for the protections afforded by registration, and that when the particular
19 class of offerees has knowledge of or access to the same kind of information that the act would
20 make available in the form of a registration statement, the transaction may come within the private
21 offering exemption.¹³ The Second Circuit expanded on this idea in *Gilligan, Will & Co. v*
22 *Securities & Exchange Com.*: The governing fact is whether the persons to whom the offering is
23 made are in such a position with respect to the issuer that they either actually have such
24 information as a registration would have disclosed, or have access to such information.¹⁴ The

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26 ¹¹ 194 Ariz. 104, 111, 977 P.2d 826, 833 (Ct. App. 1998).

¹² 346 US 119 (1953).

¹³ 346 US at 124-125.

¹⁴ 267 F. 2d 461, 466 (2nd Cir. 1959)

1 information required for a registration statement is found in Schedule A of the Securities Act, 15
2 U.S.C.A. § 77aa, which lists 32 categories of information, including net proceeds from selling
3 securities, the specific detail and approximate amounts of how funds the securities will be spent,
4 balance sheets, and profit & loss statements.

5 There is no evidence that Respondents provided this sort of information to investors. There is
6 evidence that Respondents failed to keep any accounting or other records for OBP and Lunsford.¹⁵
7 Thus, even if the investors had the requisite sophistication—a level of sophistication that by Steiner’s
8 own description of the business, was only held by two people—because the information that would
9 have been in a registration disclosure did not exist, Respondents would not meet the exemption
10 through investor sophistication.

11 Respondents argue that some of the investors were sophisticated by virtue of their financial
12 advisers or relatives. Federal law does allow for sophistication via a “purchaser representative.” In
13 order to be a “purchaser representative” the person must satisfy all of the requirements of Rule 501(i),
14 including agreeing in writing to represent the purchaser in the specific purchase.¹⁶ Respondents
15 presented no evidence of such agreements, or that the other requirements of being a purchaser
16 representative were met. Consequently, investor sophistication through representatives is unavailable
17 for this offering.

18 Because OBP failed to file a Form D, and because there is only evidence that one investor
19 was accredited, only testimony regarding the accreditation/sophistication of 25 of the 37 investors
20 which was insufficient to establish sophistication, and no evidence regarding the remaining 12
21 investors, the Rule 506 exemption is not available to Respondents.

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26 ¹⁵ H.T. 48:15–54:6; Exs. S-22, S-23, S-24, S-25, S-40, S-41, S-42, & S-43.

¹⁶ 17 C.F.R. 230.501(i).

III. Respondents' criminal-law-based defenses fail because they were not raised in Respondents' Answers, are inapposite to administrative proceedings, and Respondents have not met the elements of these defenses.

Respondents raise three defenses in their brief, all based on criminal law: entrapment, violation of the Arizona identity-theft statute, and use of evidence produced in an unlawful search and seizure in violation of *Mapp v. Ohio*.¹⁷ These defenses fail for at least three reasons.

First, Respondents did not raise these defenses in their answers to the Notice or to the TC&D. The Notice included the allegation that Respondents had violated Securities Act sections 44-1941, -1942, and -1991. Respondents' answers, respectively filed on March 16, 2012, and October 10, 2013 ("Answers")—did not set forth an affirmative defense to any of the allegations set forth in the Notice. Commission Rule 14-4-305(F) states that "The respondent waives any affirmative defense not raised in the answer." It wasn't until the hearing, months after the answers were filed, that Respondents' counsel first mentioned two of these defenses, those based on the identity-theft statute and an unlawful search and seizure. Because they were not raised in Respondents' Answers, Respondents waived these defenses.

The second reason that the defenses fail is that they do not apply to an Arizona administrative proceeding. Respondents cite no authority, and the Division was unable to find any, where these criminal defenses are applied to administrative cases in Arizona. Respondents also provide no analysis about how these doctrines should apply. They only generally assert that *Mapp* applies without offering any analysis as to how a 1961 U.S. Supreme Court case dealing with criminal procedure would apply to an administrative case. At hearing, Respondents' counsel stated he intended to move to dismiss "every piece of evidence obtained after February 22, 2012, on the basis of *Mapp [v.] Ohio* in the Supreme Court and other later cases that fall under the general aegis of excluding as evidence, evidence obtained through the commission of a crime."¹⁸ Counsel mischaracterized the holding of *Mapp*, which is that evidence obtained in an unconstitutional search and seizure (in that case, confiscating personal property while searching a home without a

¹⁷ 367 U.S. 643 (1961).

¹⁸ H.T. 79:5–80:12.

1 warrant) cannot be used as evidence to obtain a criminal conviction.¹⁹ And both counsel and
2 Steiner have failed to explain a legal basis to apply *Mapp* to an administrative hearing.
3 Respondents seem to be arguing that a violation of the identity theft statute or using an undercover
4 agent to obtain an offer constitutes “entrapment” and that this somehow triggers the protections of
5 *Mapp*, voiding all evidence obtained after February 22, 2012, the date the TC&D was filed (they
6 offer no explanation as to why they chose this date when they are alleging entrapment that
7 supposedly occurred earlier). Without authority to bring these doctrines as defenses, Respondents’
8 defenses fail in this administrative hearing.

9 The third reason that these defenses fail is that elements required to establish them are not
10 present in this case.

11 For the “improper search and seizure” defense found in the 4th Amendment and described
12 in *Mapp*, there has to first be a search and seizure. A “search” implies examination of one’s
13 persons or premises to discover evidence to be used in prosecution of criminal action.²⁰ For
14 purposes of 4th Amendment protection, a “seizure” occurs when a government agent makes some
15 meaningful interference with individual’s possessory interest in property.²¹ As shown in the
16 Opening Brief, all of Steiner’s communications with Mallamo were over the phone, email, or text;
17 there was no search. And there was no seizure: Steiner voluntarily transmitted copies of documents
18 to Mallamo. Consequently, even if this were a criminal proceeding where Steiner’s 4th Amendment
19 rights were at issue, he would not have 4th Amendment protection.

20 Respondents’ attempt to use A.R.S. § 13-2008 is similarly flawed. Even if Respondents’
21 had authority for allowing a private citizen to bring charges under this statute or authority for using
22 the statute as a defense in an administrative hearing, Respondents would be unable to establish the
23 elements of the identity-theft statute. The statute requires the use of identity without permission.
24 “Mallamo” is an undercover identity of Weiss. Weiss doesn’t need permission from herself to use
25 her own undercover identity. The statute also requires that the purpose of impermissibly taking the

26 ¹⁹ 367 U.S. at 656.

²⁰ *Jones v. Berry*, 524 F. Supp. 645 (D. Ariz. 1981).

²¹ *State v. Peters*, 941 P.2d 228, 189 Ariz. 216 (1997).

1 identity be to cause a loss to the person. Here, the purpose of assuming an alias was to conduct an
2 investigation pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1822. Under this statute, the Commission has broad
3 investigative authority.²² Consequently, even if the identity-theft statute were somehow relevant to
4 these proceedings, Respondents would not be able to establish the required elements of the statute.

5 Finally, Respondents suggest that communications from a government employee using the
6 alias "Mallamo" amounted to entrapment. To establish entrapment, Respondents would have to
7 meet the requirements of A.R.S. § 13-206, and it would be their burden of proof. This statute
8 requires, among other things, showing that Respondents had no predisposition to engage in the
9 conduct. Here, Respondents stipulated to the fact that they were selling the securities since 2008,
10 more than three years before receiving a call from Mallamo. During communication with
11 Mallamo, Steiner spoke at length about the investment, including mentioning other investors. He
12 then provided documents including an Operating Agreement, a form of which had been in
13 existence for several years. Since Respondents had engaged in this behavior for years before
14 contact with Mallamo, even if this were a criminal trial rather than an administrative hearing,
15 Respondents would have no success asserting the defense entrapment.

16 **IV. The Division showed that Respondents violated §44-1991 by failing to use funds as they**
17 **represented to investors.**

18 Respondents represented that funds would be used to fund a business. As the Division
19 showed, investor funds were frequently used to pay for Steiner's personal expenses and to pay off
20 other investors. As noted in the Opening Brief, Ms. Flowers testified that based on her conversations
21 with Steiner she expected her investment funds to be used to cover travel expenses necessary to get
22 the interested parties to sign infrastructure contracts, and as some of the investment towards the
23 infrastructure project.²³ Ms. Flowers further testified that she did not expect her funds to go to any
24 other purpose and that she probably would not have invested had she known that her investment

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26 ²² *Carrington v. Ariz. Corp. Comm'n*, 199 Ariz. 303, 305, 18 P.3d 97, 99 (2000) (Courts give the Commission "wide berth" when they review the validity of Commission investigations. An appropriately empowered agency can investigate merely on suspicion that the law is being violated, or even just because it wants assurance that it is not.)

²³ H.T. 207:16-208:3 & 209:4-25.

1 would be used for Steiner's personal expenses.²⁴ Respondents' witness, Mr. McLaughlin, testified
2 that he understood that investor funds would be used to "facilitate the [working] projects as far as
3 funding operation, costs" on the projects that Lunsford Consulting was working on.²⁵

4 Additionally, as noted in the Opening Brief, OBP's Operating Agreements state that OBP's
5 manager (i.e. Steiner) will only be paid out of gross revenues.²⁶ Since OBP was to make its
6 revenues from Lunsford Consulting,²⁷ and since OBP had not received any revenues,²⁸ payment to
7 the manager for personal expenses is in contradiction to the terms of the Operating Agreements
8 and the expectations of a reasonable investor based on those Operating Agreements. Thus, any use
9 of funds that did not directly go to the business was in contradiction to representations made to
10 investors.

11 The Division showed that on several occasions Steiner deposited investor funds in OBP's
12 account and then transferred funds from that account to Steiner. These transactions are detailed in the
13 Opening Brief.

14 As shown in the Opening Brief, the payments were from OBP's accounts. In spite of this,
15 Respondents spend a portion of their Brief arguing that Mr. Gonzales's testimony is invalid because
16 Lunsford is not subject to the Division's investigation. In addition to the fact that the testimony was
17 primarily about OBP's account, OBP and Lunsford were interrelated in several ways that make
18 Lunsford's actions relevant. As described in detail in the Opening Brief, Steiner represented to
19 investors that the entities were related. OBP investors received the Operating Agreements, which
20 stated that Lunsford would use OBP investor funds. OBP investors also received Lunsford's
21 "Executive Summary" which stated how Lunsford would earn a return on OBP investors' funds.
22 Additionally, Steiner updated investors on the deals that Lunsford was involved in. Finally, Steiner
23 was a manager of both entities through April 2013, when Mr. Lunsford died, and the sole manager
24 thereafter. He was also the signatory on the entities' bank accounts. Thus, he had control of all

25 ²⁴ H.T. 212:18-22.

26 ²⁵ H.T. 352:21-353:25.

27 ²⁶ Exs. S-11, S-71 & S-72 at ¶ 3.6.

28 ²⁷ *Id.* at ¶ 6.2.

²⁸ H.T. 560:10-18.

1 investor funds, where they came from, where they went, and how they were used. These funds were
2 supposed to go to Lunsford to be used for a specific purpose. In other words, although the entities as
3 legal fictions were separate entities, they were intimately interrelated.

4 More importantly, the nature of the violation of A.R.S. §44-1991 involves a misstatement or
5 omission of material fact. The misstatements and omissions in this case involve the misuse of investor
6 funds. In securities cases, courts will look at the entire transaction.²⁹ Here, because of how Steiner
7 constructed OBP and Lunsford's relationship, the only way to determine how the funds were used and
8 to determine if the statute has been complied with is to look at Lunsford.

9 To do as Steiner suggests, i.e. completely ignore the entity designated to spend the investors'
10 money, would lead to the absurd result where any person could raise funds with one entity, transfer
11 the funds to another related entity, and then have a blank check on spending and a complete absence
12 of disclosure requirements because the related entity did not sell the securities. Thus Steiner's
13 assertion that the Division and its accountant should not have investigated Lunsford is mistaken.

14 **V. Respondents violated A.R.S. § 44-1991 by failing to disclose the TC&D.**

15 The Division established that Respondents solicited at least three investors after the
16 Division filed the TC&D on 2/22/12, that Respondents failed to disclose the TC&D to these
17 investors, and that such failure was a material omission under established law. Respondents
18 respond by arguing that the TC&D was no longer in effect when Respondents solicited these
19 investors. This is incorrect. Under Commission rules, if a respondent requests a hearing, a
20 temporary cease and desist order remains in effect until a decision is entered in the matter.³⁰
21 Respondents requested a hearing on 3/14/12. Thus the TC&D remains in effect until a decision is
22 entered in this matter. Even if it were not in effect, the authority cited by the Division requires
23 disclosure of all government actions, whether still in effect or not. From the Opening Brief:
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26 ²⁹ See *Tcherepnin v. Knight*, 389 U.S. 332, 336, 88 S.Ct. 548 (1967) (stating cases involving securities should be
decided on the basis of the economic realities of the transaction).

³⁰ R14-4-307(A) & (C); TC&D p.7.

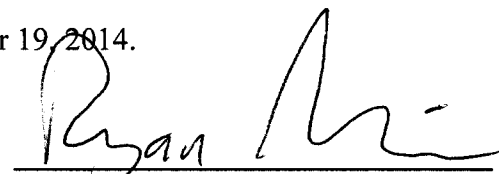
1 In *State ex rel Corbin v. Goodrich*,³¹ the Court of Appeals held that failure to disclose
2 a previous cease and desist order against company issued by Iowa securities regulator
3 was a material omission constituting fraud under the Securities Act. Other jurisdictions
4 interpreting the identical language in the federal securities laws have come to the same
5 conclusion. For example, in *SEC v. Merchant Capital, LLC*, the Eleventh Circuit held
6 that "The existence of a state cease and desist order against identical instruments is
7 clearly relevant to a reasonable investor, who is naturally interested in whether
8 management is following the law in marketing the securities."³²

9 Consequently, not disclosing the TC&D was a material omission in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1991.

10 CONCLUSION

11 Respondents' Brief fails to establish preemption and fails to establish any defenses to the
12 Division's conclusions as put forth in the Opening Brief; it also fails to cite any authority for
13 Respondents' requests for relief. Consequently, the Division requests that this tribunal deny all of
14 Respondents' requests for relief and again requests that this tribunal grant the Division's requests
15 listed in the Opening Brief.

16 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED December 19, 2014.



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18 Ryan J. Millecam
19 Attorney for the Securities Division of the
20 Arizona Corporation Commission
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³¹ 151 Ariz. 118, 124, 726 P.2d 215, 221 (App. 1986).

³² 483 F.3d 747, 771 (11th Cir. 2007).

1 ORIGINAL AND EIGHT (8) COPIES of the foregoing
2 filed this December 19, 2014, with:

3 Docket Control
4 Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

5 COPY of the foregoing mailed
6 this December 19, 2014, to:

7 Mark Steiner and Shelly Steiner
8 Out of the Blue Processors, LLC, c/o Mark Steiner
7877 E. Hanover Way
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

9 *Respondents*

10
11 By:

A handwritten signature, appearing to be "Ryan", is written over a horizontal line.